

Remarks

The Office Action dated February 10, 2011, has been received and carefully reviewed. The preceding amendments and the following remarks form a full and complete response thereto. Claims 1, 5 and 9 are amended. Support for the amendments can be found generally throughout the specification and, for example, in Figs. 12, 15, 18-19. No new matter is added. Claims 1-12 are pending in the application and are submitted for reconsideration

Applicants' representative thanks Examiner Craig for taking the time to discuss this matter on the telephone on April 26, 2011. As discussed therein, the cited prior art discloses a methodology wherein the virtual garment is placed on the human model first in unconnected pieces, which are then connected after placement. The present invention is quite different because the completely assembled garment is placed on the model. Further to the interview, the claims have been amended to more clearly recite that the virtual garment is assembled prior to placement on the model for simulation of wearing of the garment. None of the cited prior art teaches or suggests this feature.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No 6,968,297 issued to Ziakovic et al. in view of "Large Steps in Cloth Simulation" hereafter referred to as Barraff et al. Claims 3, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No 6,968,297 issued to Ziakovic et al. in view of Barraff et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and submit that claims 1-12 recite subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested by any combination of the cited prior art.

Each of the independent claims of the present application is directed to a method, device or computer program product for simulating the wearing of a knit garment on a human model, where the knit garment is a virtual knit garment having a plurality of connected parts. That is, the garment is assembled or designed first, having its parts (e.g., torso and sleeves) already connected prior to application to the human model for simulation. To highlight this feature, although Applicants submit the prior claims already required this, the independent claims were amended to expressly require that the already connect garment be provided prior to application to the model.

Ziakovic relates to a different simulation process. In Ziakovic, the separate, unconnected parts are placed on the model and then, after placement, are connected. See, e.g., Ziakovic, col. 1, lines 27-35; col. 10, lines 14-20; and col. 12, lines 4-8. Baraff, the secondary reference, is unconcerned with the placement of the garment on the model; it only relates to relaxing and deformed an already positioned garment – a fact confirmed by Ziakovic. Ziakovic, col. 13, lines 55-65.

Thus, Applicants submit that the cited prior art fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of claims 1-12. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejections to claims 1-12 be withdrawn and that claims 1-12 be allowed.

In view of the above, all objections and rejections have been sufficiently addressed. The Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and request that claims 1-12 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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